



H.RES. 1067 – RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CROSSING OF THE NORTH POLE BY THE USS NAUTILUS (SSN 571) AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE IN THE HISTORY OF BOTH OUR NATION AND THE WORLD

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1067 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Joe Courtney (D-CT) on April 1, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on Armed Services, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1067 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on July 14, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 1067 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Recognizes the historic significance of the journey to the North Pole undertaken by the USS *Nautilus*;
- Commends the officers and crew of the USS *Nautilus* on the 50th anniversary of their magnificent achievement;
- Recognizes the importance of the USS *Nautilus*' journey to the North Pole as not only a military and scientific accomplishment, but also in confirming America's longstanding interest in this vital region of the world;
- Commends the role of the USS *Nautilus* and the United States Submarine Force in protecting the interests of the free world during the Cold War; and
- Supports the continuing role of the United States Submarine Force in defending our Nation in the 21st century.

BACKGROUND

The USS *Nautilus* was a submarine constructed and launched in Groton, Connecticut, on January 21, 1954. It was the world's first nuclear powered vessel. On August 3, 1958, the USS *Nautilus* crossed the North Pole while submerged under polar ice and became the first vessel to accomplish this. Navy Commander William R. Anderson was awarded the Legion of Merit for his command of the USS *Nautilus* during this crossing and the ship itself was awarded the meritorious vessel award of the Presidential Union Citation, becoming the first naval vessel to receive this award in peacetime.

In addition to crossing the North Pole, the USS *Nautilus* has accomplished several other naval records over a twenty-five year active career, including being the first submarine to achieve a depth of '20,000 leagues under the sea.' The USS *Nautilus* was based out of the Naval Submarine Base New London, in Connecticut, and is currently on display at Base New London.

STAFF CONTACT

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